

## AINA NEWS

### New AINA Fellow

At the June 2011 meeting of the AINA Board of Directors, Dr. Konrad Gajewski was elected as a Fellow of the Institute. Dr. Gajewski is a paleoclimatologist and paleoecologist who has worked in various regions of the Arctic for nearly 30 years. He is currently a full professor at the University of Ottawa, where he teaches courses in climatology, biogeography, and quantitative methods. Dr. Gajewski received a Master of Science in Quaternary Studies from the University of Maine in Orono in 1979 and a PhD in Meteorology from the University of Wisconsin in 1983. As a member of the Laboratory for Paleoclimatology and Climatology, Dr. Gajewski has several ongoing research projects that focus on the causes of climate change and its effects on northern ecosystems.

### New AINA Research Associate

At the June meeting, the Board appointed Line Laplante as a new research associate of the Arctic Institute. Line received a Master of Arts from the University of Calgary in 2009 after completing a thesis with the intriguing title, *Native Spirituality: Spirit Piracy and Native Sweat Lodges*. Currently a research assistant in the Department of Sociology, University of Calgary, Line plans to pursue a PhD with a research focus on spirituality and the natural world in three areas: Canada's West Coast, the Canadian North, and New Zealand or Australia.

### Grant-in-Aid Recipients for 2011

Of the 24 students who applied for a Grant-in-Aid Award in 2011, nine received awards of \$1000 to assist with the costs of conducting northern research. The successful candidates for 2011 are the following:

- John Blong, Department of Anthropology, Texas A&M University, is studying the human colonization and prehistoric upland use of the Alaska Range, Central Alaska;
- Michelle A. Borowitz, Department of Anthropology, University of Alberta, is researching the human dimension of hydroelectric dam developments and transboundary water security in the Mackenzie River Basin;
- Sally Carraher, Department of Anthropology, McMaster University, is investigating the social factors related to *Helicobacter pylori* bacterial infections in a northern Indigenous community;
- Patricia Curry, DVM, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary, is continuing her research on the use of filter-paper blood testing to monitor caribou health;
- Courtney Fidler, Department of Geography, University of Saskatchewan, is researching how regional-scale strategic impact assessments can improve the environmental management of Arctic offshore oil and gas development;
- Taya Forde, DVM, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Calgary, is studying the role of *Mycobacterium avium* subsp. *paratuberculosis* in free-ranging herds of wood bison;
- Jillian Steele, Faculty of Veterinary Medical Sciences, University of Calgary, is researching the risk factors associated with parasite abundance and host translocation in West Greenland caribou;
- Daniel Sturgis, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Alberta, is exploring the link between a glacier outburst flood event and observed subglacial hydrological conditions; and
- Eryn McFarlane, Department of Integrative Biology, University of Guelph, is researching the mechanisms that maintain additive genetic variance of fitness in a red squirrel population.

Proposals for 2012 are due on 1 February. Please refer to the AINA website for information on applications, or contact the AINA office in Alaska at Arctic Institute of North America, U.S. Corporation, University of Alaska, PO Box 6808, Rasmuson Library, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-6808. Telephone: (907) 474-7450; Fax: (907) 474-7290.

### New AINA Staff

In mid July, the Institute welcomed Monica Micallef, who is replacing Mary Li as Institute Manager until the completion of Mary's maternity leave in November 2012. Before accepting the job at the Arctic Institute, Monica was working in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Monica ran her own business in Toronto before moving to Calgary in 2007, providing management and accounting services to law firms and a public utility organization. Monica's husband, Mario, is a member of the engineering team constructing The Bow, which will be the tallest office tower in Canada outside Toronto. Her daughter Jennifer is in her final year at St. Mary's High School, and her son Andrew is studying engineering physics at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. Monica finds life in Calgary engaging and full of opportunities for herself and her family.